

**FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER**

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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**BARRY J. PORTMAN**  
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July 10, 2008

The Honorable Saundra Brown Armstrong  
United States District Judge  
1301 Clay Street  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94621

Re: United States v. Roberto Vasquez Ramos  
CR 08 00357 SBA

Dear Judge Armstrong:

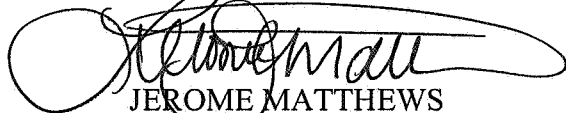
Mr. Vasquez Ramos will appear for sentencing on July 15, 2008. I will be out of town on vacation on that date, and AFD Ned Smock will be appearing for Mr. Vasquez Ramos in my absence. This letter confirms that I have met and discussed with Mr. Vasquez Ramos the nature of the charges, any possible defenses and the full panoply of rights to which he would be entitled, including jury trial and appeal. I am confident that Mr. Vasquez Ramos understands those rights, is willing to waive them, and fully understands the consequences of entering a guilty plea.

I have signed the plea agreement and application to enter a guilty plea in conformity with the Court's practice, after having explained the terms of each to Mr. Vasquez Ramos through a Spanish-speaking interpreter. Mr. Vasquez Ramos expressed unequivocally his understanding of and agreement to their terms.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

BARRY J. PORTMAN  
Federal Public Defender



JEROME MATTHEWS  
Assistant Federal Public Defender

cc: AUSA Keslie Stewart  
USPO Connie Cook